

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph 1 starting on pages 18-19 as follows:

Figure 3 is a block diagram illustrating selected components of the processor 30 illustrated in **Figure 2**, and depicts various functional units that provide a buffering capability as being logically partitioned to accommodate two threads (i.e., thread 0 and thread 1). The logical partitioning for two threads of the buffering (or storage) and processing facilities of a functional unit may be achieved by allocating a first predetermined set of entries within a buffering resource to a first thread and allocating a second predetermined set of entries within the buffering resource to a second thread. Specifically, this may be achieved by providing two pairs of read and write pointers, a first pair of read and write pointers being associated with a first thread and a second pair of read and write pointers being associated with a second thread. The first set of read and write pointers may be limited to a first predetermined number of entries within a buffering resource, while the second set of read and write pointers may be limited to a second predetermined number of entries within the same buffering resource. In the exemplary embodiment, the instruction streaming buffer 106, the trace cache 62, and an instruction queue 103 are shown to each provide a storage capacity that is logically partitioned between the first and second threads. Each of these units is also ~~shown~~ shown to include a "shared" capacity that may, according to respective embodiments, be dynamically allocated to either the first or the second thread according to certain criteria.